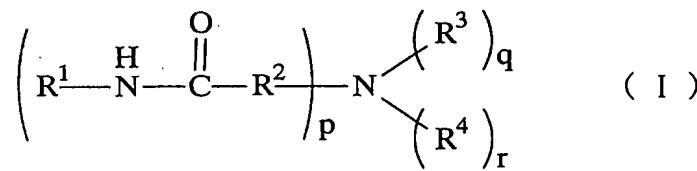


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

16. (new) A hair cosmetic comprising an amine compound of formula (I):



wherein,

R^1 represents a group represented by the formula $\text{R}^5\text{O}-(\text{AO})_n-\text{C}_m\text{H}_{2m}$. (R^5 represents a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkenyl group having 8 to 40 carbon atoms, A represents an alkylene group having 2 to 3 carbon atoms, n denotes a number from 0 to 30 on the average and m denotes an integer of 2 or 3, where nA's may be the same as or different from one another),

R^2 represents a straight-chain or branched alkylene group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, a straight-chain or branched alkyl, alkenyl or hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms or an aryl or arylalkyl group having 6 to 28 carbon atoms,

R^4 represents a hydrogen atom, a straight-chain or branched alkyl, alkylene or hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms or an aryl or arylalkyl group having 6 to 28 carbon atoms,

R^3 and R^4 may form a ring either independently or in combination,

p denotes an integer from 1 to 3,

q and r denote an integer from 0 to 2 and p + q + r is equal to 3, that pR¹'s, pR²'s, qR³'s and rR⁴'s may be the same as or different from one another.

17. (new) The hair cosmetic of claim 16, wherein in the formula (I), R¹ represents a group represented by the formula R⁵O-(AO)_n-C_mH_{2m}-(R⁵ represents a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkenyl group having 12 to 24 carbon atoms, A, n and m represent the same meaning as above, R² represents a straight-chain alkylene group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R³ and R⁴ represent a straight-chain or branched alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms or an aryl or arylalkyl group having 6 to 28 carbon atoms (R³ and R⁴ may form a ring either independently or in combination), p is 1 or 2 and q and r are 0 or 1.

18. (new) The hair cosmetic of claim 16, further comprising at least one acid selected from the group consisting of inorganic acids and organic acids.

19. (new) The hair cosmetic of claim 16, further comprising an alcohol having 10 to 30 carbon atoms.

20. (new) The hair cosmetic of claim 16, further comprising:

i) at least one acid selected from the group consisting of inorganic acids and organic acids; and

ii) an alcohol having 10 to 30 carbon atoms,

wherein the content of the amine compound (I) is 0.1 to 15% by weight, the content of the acid is 0.3 to 10 mol equivalents to the amine (I) and the content of alcohol having 10 to 30 carbon atoms is 0.5 to 15% by weight.